

**Sterne Kessler
Goldstein Fox**
ATTORNEYS AT LAW



Robert Greene Sterne
Jorge A. Goldstein
David K.S. Cornwell
Robert W. Esmond
Tracy-Gene G. Durkin
Michele A. Cimbala
Michael B. Ray
Robert E. Sokohl
Eric K. Steffe
Michael Q. Lee
Steven R. Ludwig
John M. Covert
Linda E. Horner
Robert C. Millonig
Donald J. Featherstone
Timothy J. Shea, Jr
Michael V. Messinger
Judith U. Kim

Patrick E. Garrett
Jeffrey T. Helvey
Heidi L. Kraus
Eldora L. Ellison
Thomas C. Fiala
Donald R. Banowitz
Peter A. Jackman
Jeffrey S. Weaver
Brian J. Del Buono
Vincent L. Capuano
Virgil Lee Beaton
Theodore A. Wood
Elizabeth J. Haanes
Joseph S. Ostroff
Frank R. Cottingham
Rae Lynn P. Guest
Daniel A. Klein
Jason D. Eisenberg

Michael D. Specht
Tracy L. Muller
Jon E. Wright
LuAnne M. DeSantis
Ann E. Summerfield
Helene C. Carlson
Cynthia M. Bouchez
Timothy A. Doyle
Gabry L. Longworth
Lori A. Gordon
Ted J. Ebersole
Laura A. Vogel
Bryan S. Wade
Bashir M.S. Ali
Shannon A. Carroll
Matthew E. Kelley
Michelle K. Holoubek
Marsha A. Rose*

W. Blake Coblenz*
James J. Pohl*
John T. Haran*
Mark W. Rygiel

Registered Patent Agents*
Karen R. Markowicz
Matthew J. Dowd
Katrina Yujian Pei Quach
Bryan L. Skelton
Robert A. Schwartzman
Teresa A. Colella
Victoria S. Rutherford
Simon J. Elliott
Julie A. Heider
Mita Mukherjee
Scott M. Woodhouse
Christopher J. Walsh

Liliana Di Nola-Baron
Peter A. Socarras
Jeffrey Mills
Danielle L. Letting
Lori Brandes

Of Counsel
Edward J. Kessler
Kenneth C. Bass III
Marvin C. Guthrie

*Admitted only in Maryland
*Admitted only in Virginia
*Practice Limited to
Federal Agencies

April 19, 2006

WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER:
(202) 772-8550
INTERNET ADDRESS:
EKESSLER@SKGF.COM

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Art Unit 2186

Attn: Mail Stop AF

Re: U.S. Non-Provisional Patent Application
Application No. 10/033,997; Filed: December 19, 2001
For: **Expansion of RAID Subsystem Using Spare Space with Immediate
Access to New Space**
Inventors: FRANKLIN *et al.*
Our Ref: 1875.5930000

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Reply Under 37 C.F.R. §1.116; and
2. Return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Edward J. Kessler
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 25,688

EJK/YAT/jmh
Enclosures



Corres. and Mail
BOX AF

**Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
Expedited Procedure – Art Unit 2186**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Chris R. FRANKLIN *et al.*

Appl. No.: 10/033,997

Filed: December 19, 2001

**For: Expansion of RAID Subsystem
Using Spare Space with Immediate
Access to New Space**

Confirmation No.: 1881

Art Unit: 2186

Examiner: Tsai, Sheng Jen

Atty. Docket: 1875.5930000

Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Mail Stop AF

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated March 31, 2006, (PTO Prosecution File Wrapper Paper No. 100705), Applicants submit the following Amendment and Remarks.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.